

## Clinical, Hematological and Biochemical Findings in an Outbreak of Abortion and High Neonatal Mortality Associated with *Trypanosoma evansi* Infection in Dromedary Camels.

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Trypanosomosis due to *Trypanosoma evansi* is a major enzootic disease of the dromedary camel. From the clinical viewpoint, trypanosomosis may occur in both acute and chronic forms, but generally the chronic form is the most common in camels. Concerning to the reproductive system, abortions, premature births and an inability to feed the young have been described. The mechanism responsible of the reproductive disturbs are not fully understood, but abortion has been attributed to intrauterine infection or to the stress of infection. In addition, there are not information about clinical assessment of *T. evansi* infection in female camels in the peripartum period. Thus, this paper presents the clinical features of the disease in an outbreak of abortion and high neonatal mortality associated with *T. evansi* infection in dromedary camels occurred in the Canary Islands.

Affected animals were diagnosed by routine checking (in 3 pregnant animals), after abortion (5 cases), or after delivered premature or weak calves (8 cases). At clinical examination, 2 out of 16 affected animals showed moderate signs of chronic form, particularly hyporexia and intolerance to exercise. In this outbreak, the aborted fetuses were aged 6-8 months of gestation, approximately. However, in many reports late term abortions have been a common finding of the disease in camels. Given that all aborted animals were parasitemic in our study, the acute parasitemia could cause abortion with independence of the pregnancy stage. The main laboratorial findings were regenerative anemia (hemolytic anemia), lymphocytic and monocytic leukocytosis, hyperproteinemia, hyperglobulinemia, hypoglycemia, serum urea increased and serum iron decreased. Uremia is not a common finding in trypanosomosis, but it could appear in pregnant or just delivered females related to disease due probably to the higher metabolic requirements. For comparison, 16 camels in the peripartum period from another farm and negative to *T. evansi* were used as control. Massive treatment (Cymelarsan®) was required in all entire herd and in other camel herds located in the surrounding area.